BEST AVAILABLE COPY

<u>REMARKS</u>

Applicant certainly appreciates the allowance of Claims 10-20 and the suggestions offered by the Examiner to overcome the rejection of Claims 3-6. Accordingly, the language of canceled Claim 3 was added to Claim 1, which is now allowable along with dependent claims 2 and 4-9.

Applicant has provided the proper status identifier (original) for Claim 12, which was inadvertently omitted in the previously submitted Amendment A, in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121).

It is respectfully submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance and favorable action is requested. No extension of time is believed to be required. However, in the event that an extension of time is required, please charge that extension fee and any other required fees to Hitachi Global Storage Technologies' Deposit Account Number 50-2587.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael E. Noe, Jr.

Reg. No. 44,975

BRACEWELL & PATTERSON, L.L.P.

P.O. Box 61389

Houston, Texas 77208-1389

(512) 472-7800

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS

This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning Operations and is not part of the Official Record

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

BLACK BORDERS

IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES

FADED TEXT OR DRAWING

BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING

SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES

COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS

GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

OTHER:

As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.